From: <u>Terrie C. Williams</u>

To: Public Hearing;

CC:

Subject: Wal-Mart Bank

Date: Thursday, April 06, 2006 9:29:07 AM

Attachments:

Dear Sir,

I write to you today with grave concerns regarding Wal-Mart's bid to open its own banking system.

I troubles me that a mega-corporation such as Wal-Mart wishes to monopolize further and undermine the local financial institutions in this country. Wal-Mart, if allowed to do this, would undermine local banking, credit unions and S&L's in small communities nationwide by undercutting these institutions in ways that the local's cannot compete with just as WalMart has with local grocery stores, drug stores, ma&pa stores, etc. Wal-Mart will drive them out of business.

I concerns me because I like having a choice of banking institutions. I like my credit union and my local bank. I miss being able to go to any local retailer and shop. Sadly, Wal-Mart has driven local businesses in my town out. Some continue to hold on and I shop with them FIRST before resorting to Wal-Mart. It will be the same with the banking institutions here.

To me, it is a dangerous emassing of concentrated power to permit Wal-Mart to venture into banking along with it's control of retailing. It would be a true monopoly. This goes against everything in America we hold dear--choice.

If Wal-Mart is permitted to consolidate this kind of power combined with the power it already has, individuals will no longer have much choice at all. And who is to say Wal-Mart will not hold local communities hostage by refusing to give loans to local businesses and thereby driving even more 'competition' out of business? It will. Just as it has systematically destroyed as many 'local' compeditors' as it could. It will do so again if you permit this to happen.

I hope you do not.

Thank you for your time and consideration in reading this letter.